The Prydonian
RENEGADE

Gambit, New B7 Con, Held Next February; Club Members Get Break

Gambit, a new Blakes 7 convention, will be held next February 10–12 at the Newark Airport Holiday Inn North. Invited guests are Paul Darrow, David Jackson, Michael Keating, Jacqueline Pearce, Janet Lees Price, Gareth Thomas, and Sheelagh Wells. The usual round of events will be offered, as well as something new: Gambit will be based on the episode of the same name. It will have a Mardis Gras theme. Instead of a costume contest, members are urged to attend in costume all weekend long. There will be a casino and other events.

Membership in Gambit is $45, but members of area clubs may join for $35 if they do so by June 30. When writing in, tell them all the local clubs you belong to. Clubs with more than fifty members attending will get a free dealer table. There will be a guest fund; a contribution of $50 or more will get you invited to a special party. Contributions of less than $50 will earn other benefits.

Make all checks payable to Gambit Con, Inc., and mail to Gambit Con, Inc., 308 West 30th Street, New York, NY 10001.

We will be sponsoring the convention suite at Gambit, along with the Unearthly Children and the Cygnus Alphans. We will need volunteers and donations; more about that in future months.

By the way, we have been asked to point out that Gambit has no relationship, affiliation, or connection with DSV One or Decima Productions.

See you at Gambit!

Relaxicon Cancelled

Relaxicon I was cancelled. The convention, starring Sophie Aldred, was to have been held May 1 at the War Memorial Auditorium in Trenton. Ticket sales were disappointing and the promoter, Varosian Productions, decided to cancel the event. All ticket-buyers should have received refunds by now. Varosian Productions are cancelling their plans to hold further conventions.

We'd like to apologize for not informing you of this before May 1. It was not possible to get the May *Renegade* out before the May Assembly. To send out a special notice just on Relaxicon would have cost the club too much.

It's too bad Relaxicon failed. We may not have another big con in New Jersey for some time. We'd like to thank the promoter of Relaxicon, James C. Armstrong Jr., for his efforts at bringing us a new con.

1988 Doctor Who Story Contest Invites Entries

It's time for the 1988 Doctor Who Story Contest! Send us your original Doctor Who stories (on any aspect of the Whoniverse). Stories must be typed, less than 2000 words long, never before published, not under consideration anywhere else, and accompanied by a $1 entry fee. Deadline: August 27. Send to our PO Box. Put your name on every page and keep a copy for yourself!

Send us summer address changes

Summer is a coming in, and that means many of you will be coming home from school or otherwhise changing your address. Please send us your summer address as soon as possible so we can continue to mail you your *Renegade*. We'd hate for anyone to miss any issue. We need your change of address by June 30 for the July issue. The same thing will hold true at the end of the summer: we need your fall address by late August, if possible. Thanks!

Dates to Remember

June 4: June Assembly
July 1–3: Time Festival '88
July 2: July Assembly and Cookout
July 31: Summer Picnic
August 5–7: Scorpio VI
August 12–14: Tardiscon '88

Assemblies are at the Lawrenceville Library, Lawrenceville, New Jersey, from noon to 4 pm. The July Assembly will be from 11 am to 2 pm. Food and drink are welcome. For information and directions, call 609-921-8148. Other events are as specially noted.

Editorial

Leave of Absence

This is a personal note from your editor, Tom Beck. I have been editing, publishing (and mostly writing) *The Renegade* since its inception, way back in April 1984. This is the fifty-fifth issue I have put out without ever missing a month. I'm proud of that record, just as I am of the fact that many people feel *The Renegade* is the best club newsletter around. But four plus years is a very long time to do anything; after awhile, even the most devoted fanatic may feel that some time off would be welcome.

That's how I feel now. I love the Prydonians, I love fandom, and I love *The Renegade*. I wouldn't have given up these past four years for anything. But I need a break. Doing each issue takes an awful lot of time, and recently I've been finding it harder and harder to get it done. That's why this issue is a little late, for example. I'd rather take some time off now than completely burn out later. I'll still be involved with the club, and I'll help out with the newsletter, but there are other things I want to do, and now's the time to do them. So I'll be turning *The Renegade* over to someone else for the next few months, and then we'll see.

What does this mean for the newsletter? *The Renegade* will probably not look as slick as it has recently. Its content may change a bit, as the new editor will have his or her own ideas. He or she probably won't be as arbitrary as I was in deciding what to use and what to discard. This will make it easier for all of you to have your contributions published! We will need all the help we can get, guys, so start writing.

Looking back on the past four years, I have mostly good memories. I loved the Assemblies, the parties, the conventions, and the monthly "folding parties." I'd like to thank everyone who helped put the newsletter out; I hope you'll continue to offer your help to the new editor. You guys have been the best friends I've ever had.

The Renegade will continue; I'm not the newsletter any more than I am the club. I just ask all of you to be a little patient while the new regime figures its way out. This may even make the newsletter better, as it won't be just one person's work anymore.

Anyway, it's been fun, but I need a break. I'm not leaving the club; I'm just going to reduce my activity for awhile. Probably by the fall I'll be raring to get back to work. Good luck to *The Renegade!*

Letters to *The Renegade*

[This letter was sent to editor Tom Beck for the club:]

Dear Tom:

Deb [Walsh] and I had intended to create a special thank you to send to persons like you who had contributed so much to the success of DSV One, but, as withmany ideas, the conception proved easier than the realization. Our respective schedules have simply not permitted us to get together, and since time was passing all too quickly, I thought I had better make my own thank yous on behalf of Decima before any more time slips away.

Thank you so much for everything you and the Prydonians of Prynceton did in connection with DSV One. Your help in promoting the convention in the Prydonian newsletter; your help in distributing flyers; your hard work at the convention in running the con suite all helped make DSV One the tremendous success it was. Your help was deeply appreciated and gratefully received.

Decima Productions is sending a contribution of $250 to WHYY [Channel 12 in Philadelphia]. The contribution will be send in the names of the Prydonians of Prynceton, the Cygnus Alphans, the Un-

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The Prydonian Renegade

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Without Whom Dept:

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TARDISTalk

What's What in Doctor Who and Blakes 7 fandom

Did we fool you?

Here we go again. Every April we do Something Awful, and then every May we 'fess up about it.

Last month was, of course, our Fourth Annual April Fool's Day Hoax Issue. To celebrate, there were not one but FOUR spurious articles in the issue! Did you find them all? We're sure you did, but just in case, here they all are:

First of all, the story about an unknown programme called *Professor X* was an unconscionable lie from start to finish. Its excessive detail was just another part of the conspiracy to defraud you all.

Most of the story contained hints that all was not as it seemed. For example, Colonel Archer was played by Patrick Kent-Smith, which, as it turns out, is the real name of Sylvester McCoy! Also the fourth story, about a planet on the far side of the Sun, was actually written for *Doctor Who* by the late Malcolm Hulke for the William Hartnell Doctor, but never made.

Easier to spot was Michael Grade taking over PBS. Virtually no one bought that ridiculous notion, to our relief.

As for the Blakes 7 movie: did any of you take this seriously? Lily Tomlin as Cally? Arnold Schwartzenegger as Gan? Terry's Nation? Ugh. By the way, we had the permission of Terry Nation to run this hoax; in fact, when asked about it, he giggled and said that nothing is worth doing that can't be made fun of.

The hardest hoax of all to figure out was Jon Miller's Blakes 7 Trivia Quiz. All the roles were from B7; all the actors from Doctor Who!

The Blakes 7 movie hoax was by Barbara Teichert; the other two stories were by the editor, Tom Beck. Sic transit another April. You're free from out and out hoaxes for another year; we're not promising anything about obvious jokes.

Freedom City near Baltimore next April

Freedom City is a new Blakes 7 con, to be held April 28–30, 1989, in Towson, Maryland. Invited guests are Paul Darrow, Michael Keating, Janet Lees Price, Sheelagh Wells, and Terry Nation. Membership is $35 until Scorpio, $40 until next March 31. Guest fund is $35. Checks should be payable to Bea Quindlen and sent to Freedom City, Box 887, Edgewood, MD 21040. This one is being put on by Marion McChesney, a member and a well-known fanzine publisher. We'll have more on this in future months.

Personal Note:

Wanted: One male or female nonsmoker to share a room at Scorpio VI with three others from August 4 through August 7. Call Michelle London at 215-947-0858; leave message if I'm not at home.

A Wonderful 4th Birthday Party

Our Fourth Birthday Party, held March 26, was a smash success. Lots of people attended and they ate and drank mass quantities of food and drink. They also roared at the newest presentation of the Not Ready For Prime Time and Space Players. Our thanks to Steve Lesnik for arranging our use of the Huntington Park Clubhouse, which proved to be a wonderful location. So nice, in fact, that we'll be using it for our Christmas Party next December 17!

Thanks to everyone who braved the elements and brought all those mass quantities. May our Fifth Birthday be celebrated with as much joy.

Last Chance for SIDS Pledges

We're into the homestretch on "Pledge Off Pounds," our fundraiser for SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome). With one month to go, and counting pledges and cash donated and weight already lost by our seven volunteers, we've now raised over $400 for the New Jersey SIDS foundation branch. Pat Betz, Cindy Henry, and Julie Florez lead the way in weight lost; Tom Beck is lagging far behind (fortunately, he has the most pledged on him, so he won't lag in raising money). Thanks to everyone who has pledged or donated so far.

We also have SIDS lapel pins, t-shirts, and nightshirts; they will be available by mail or at club functions. To pledge or make a donation, call Dorothy Case at 609-392-6204. "PoP" runs out on May 31. We'd like to collect all the money by June 8, which is Colin Baker's birthday ("PoP" is to honour Colin, who last year lost 50 pounds to raise money for SIDS, which claimed his first child). So don't miss this last chance to pledge for pounds off!

Scorpio Almost Sold Out

Scorpio VI has sold over 425 of its maximum of 550 memberships. If you want to go, get your $40 in before the end of May. There is also a new guest fund; $50 donation gets an invitation to a special party. Check payable to Nancy Kolar, mail to PO Box 397, Midlothian, IL 60445.

There are still seats available on our own Scorpio Flight II. Last price quoted was $153 roundtrip. Call Ruth Albano at 609-585-7590.

How would you play the Doctor?
Tall, Dark, and Handsome!
—*an interview with Sylvester McCoy*

[Conducted in New York on Saturday, February 27, 1988, by Tom Beck, Kathy Hauprich, and Eileen Freeman]

Q. Before we talk about *Doctor Who,* why don't we talk a little about Sylvester McCoy? Would you mind telling us a little bit about yourself?

A. Well, I'm five foot six, eyes of blue. I'm a Scot, Scottish Brit. An Anglo-Irish-Scot. A mixture.

Q. I understand that you also were in a seminary for awhile. Tom Baker and Colin Baker were in seminaries.

A. Yes I was. It seems to be training for Doctors, go to seminaries.

Q. What did you do after leaving the seminary?

A. I went to school for a few years in my local town, and then I went to London and worked in the City of London in reinsurance and insurance for awhile. Then the company I was working with went bust and I drifted around for a bit and ended up in the Rounhouse Theatre in the box office. And I rather enjoyed that. I was in there one day a director came in and asked me if I wanted to join his group, because he thought I was an actor. Someone had told him mistakenly I was an actor.

Q. We heard that somebody told him, "Go see the guy in the box office—"

A. "—he's out of his head," yes.

Q. So you joined this acting company?

A. Mm hmm. The Ken Kampbell Road Show, it had Bob Hoskins, Dave Hill, Jane Wood, Ken Kampbell, and myself were founder members of it. Bob's gone on to greater things.

Q. That's for sure. So have you.

A. So have I! I'm very lucky. Both of us have been very lucky.

Q. What did you start off with, in repertory?

A. No, I started off with this group. We worked very much in a fringe, off-Broadway way. We did street theater, we did working men's clubs, in real theaters, in pubs. It was kind of challenging. Very very interesting school of acting. A hard school of acting. It was great.

Q. What did you do after that? How long were you with the Road Show?

A. About two years, two and a half years. Then I went to Theatre Workshop, Stratford East, with Joan Littlewood, who had a great influence on British theater in the fifties and sixties. I worked with her on her last productions. Then I went from there to Nottingham Playhouse. I was asked to do television at the same time. In a way, I had two careers going. I was doing a particular kind of television and at the same time doing general theatrical work, and the two never crossed much.

Q. How did you get the part of Doctor Who?

A. Well, I applied, really, along with about six thousand other people. As luck would have it, I was at the National Theatre doing *The Pied Piper,* and John [Nathan-Turner] came to see that. It was a rather good audition piece for Doctor Who. Although it's very different, I don't play Doctor Who like the Pied Piper, although you could, but I didn't. So that was lucky, he

photo by Jon Manzo

saw me in that. Another producer phoned up John at the BBC and said, "You should see Sylvester McCoy for this role. I've worked with him a lot and I think he'd be really good at it." So that helped. And then I met John and chatted with him. We had a couple of long interviews, about two and a half hours each.

Q. What did you cover in them?

A. I don't know, really. Lots. Trying to be charming for two and a half hours is very exhausting. You're after a job, so you're selling yourself. I kept thinking, usually they only last half an hour. This was going on and on and on. I kept thinking I'm going to run out of charm, he's going to find out who I really am. As luck would have it, he didn't. So I got the job.

Q. I suppose one of the things he asked you was how you would play the Doctor.

A. Tall, dark, and handsome, I remember saying.

Q. You've done four episodes so far. Do you know if any of the scripts were written for Colin Baker and had to be rewritten for you, or were they all commissioned especially for you?

A. They weren't commissioned especially for me, they were commissioned for a new Doctor, who they didn't have. Although the first story, because Pip Baker and his wife had worked with Colin, with that Doctor, that still had an effect on the script, when I was saying some of the lines I kept thinking, you could feel this was a Colin Baker line. It was rather bizarre, really.

Q. So you knew how Colin had played it. Did you watch it when he was on or did you watch it afterwards to find out?

A. I watched a bit of it. I'd seen a bit of it and I watched his first story, the first four half hours, before I started playing it.

Q. So had you been a fan of *Doctor Who* before taking the role?

A. Yes, I had been.

Q. How far back do your memories of it go?

A. Patrick Troughton. I started watching him.

Q. A lot of us see some similarity between your Doctor and his.

A. Yes, I'm very flattered by that, I thought he was a great Doctor.

Q. Do you do that deliberately?

A. I knew that my technique is more akin to his than any of the other Doctors. I'm not a Tom Baker–type of actor, or Colin. They're all taller than me! I'm not surprised. I am that type. I think that's what the BBC wanted to go for again. They'd tried other types. They decided, let's go for another type.

Q. Of the four stories you've done so far, do you have a favourite, for any reason?

A. Not really. I enjoyed them all differently, for different reasons.

Q. Which were?

A. The first one I enjoyed because it was the first one, and it was a great experience, great playing the Doctor. I'm very fond of it for that reason. It was the first chance to try it out. The second one I actually liked because I hated doing it, and it turned out to be so good. I sat down and thought, it was rather good. I didn't like doing it because they gave me so many lines and it was

all on one set and I'd spend twelve hours talking. It's very sore on the jaw and your brain goes funny and you get very bored. But that was just the nature of the piece.

Q. Did you think that "Delta and the Bannermen" could have used more time? It seemed that they left a lot of explanation out.

A. I suppose it was. It was amazing that we actually got it together, we did it in twelve days, which is very, very fast. It was all on location. As luck would have it, the weather was with us. It was done on the run, really, and I suppose that shows in it. It was an enjoyable romp. It was a light-hearted one, and there's no harm in that. I had great fun doing it.

Q. Would you mind talking about the differences between your two Companions?

A. I can only surmise what Sophie is going to be like. On the showing of the character she created in the last story, I think she's going to be very different from Bonnie. Two different types of performers. Mel was very supportive, to this Doctor, anyway. I'm not sure how Sophie's going to develop. I could see where she's going to be very troublesome to the Doctor. I think he's going to like her very very much, but she's most likely going to get them both into a hell of a lot of trouble. I hope so, because it would be fun trying to get out of it. I haven't seen the scripts, but it all depends on how they've written it. We've chatted about it, I put my own tuppence in and said these things.

Q. This season was very controversial in Britain. The ratings were acceptable, given its time slot, but people seemed either to really like it or really hate it. What were your feelings? How do you feel you were received as the Doctor?

A. In the general public's response, in all the letters I received, quite a few thousands, they've been full of praise for me and love, which is great. Except for two letters of that vast amount were rather critical. I was surprised. I expected at the most optimistic that a third might not like it and two thirds would. As far as the controversy, it's unfortunate. I received letters from people who went public with how much they disliked the programme, saying they liked what I was doing, they were attacking John Nathan-Turner. It blurs the attack in the public's eyes, it was of me, no matter how subtle it was that they weren't knocking me, they were knocking the production staff. It got blurred. That annoys me. It makes me frustrated.

Q. A lot of people thought it was going too far towards campy humor, maybe silly humor.

A. One story, perhaps, "Delta and the Bannermen," was a bit along those lines. But I don't think the last one was. Perhaps the last episode of "Paradise Towers" was rather odd. I don't think the last one I did was too comedic. In a sense we're still trying to find our way. We're trying to find a balance between the fact that I am, in fact, at home in comedy. I like bringing a bit of comedy into it. At the same time I like to bring a strong seriousness as a contrast. I don't want to be committed to one facet of the character, it's a multifaceted character. If the Doctor is one person, in his Troughton personage, he was quite comic, also at the end of the Tom Baker perios. I also want to express his anger, his grumpiness.

Q. Do you get any input into the scripts?

A. I don't get any input into the stories. I have added little scenes. The scene in the first one, in the warerobe, it was my idea to dress up as all the other Doctors. For the fun of it. So I was allowed to put that in. The unbrella was my idea. I can say, why don't we do this?

Q. Whose idea was it that you're always tipping your hat and all the mangled proverbs?

A. Mine. I used to wear that hat in the streets, and I noticed if I saw someeone and took my hat off to them, the pleasure in their eyes for just that one little movement was amazing, people really enjoyed a simple thing like taking your hat off to them. From that experience I figured that people must like this, it's an old-fashioned thing, people don't do it very often nowadays. But they like it so I'll do it as the character.

The proverbs were John Nathan-Turner's idea. I wanted to keep them, one every half hour, or one each story. Now and again. It's something he's got, something that's not quite perfect, a twitch, in his brain he gets these things mixed up. I don't know if it will disappear, it depends kind of on the writing, the writers have to fall in love with it as well.

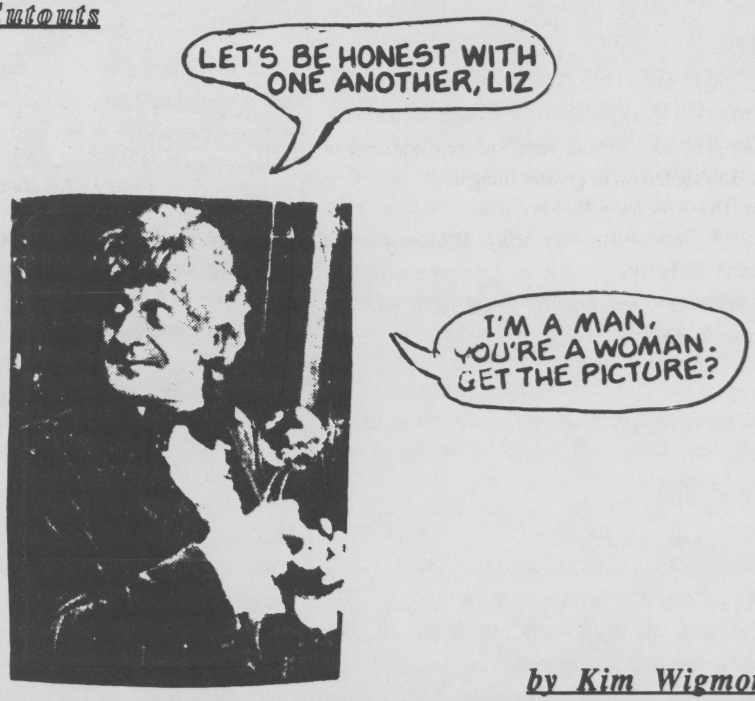
Q. On the whole, were you pleased with your work in your first year as Doctor Who? Were there things you'd like to do differently next year? Playing the Doctor, dealing with emergencies, monsters and baddies?

A. I felt that he still hasn't completely arived yet. I would have liked, as the character of the Doctor, to have maybe twenty-six weeks. But as an actor I'm quite pleased not to, gives me time to do other things. I'm looking forward to doing the new season to find out what more is in this character, to develop it.

Q. John Nathan-Turner said that the BBC might be reconsidering its policy of limiting any Doctor to just three seasons. How long would you be willing to play the Doctor? Would you stop after three, or might you do more?

A. I don't know. As it's all hypothetical, I think I'll just wait and see. Depends how I feel then. I wouldn't be at all surprised if they came up and said do you want to do some more I would sit down and think very positively about it. But I'm not going to say now, because A, things change in your life, and B, there was one Doctor said he wanted to be the longest-serving Doctor and he ended up being the shortest. So I ain't going to make any pronouncements.

Kim's Cutouts



by Kim Wigmore

Letters, Continued

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earthly Children, the Jersey Jagaroth, and DSV One. Decima plans to request, in lieu of other premiums, that a membership be designated in the name of a fan from each club who could not otherwise afford a membership. This is intended as a more intangible expression of our appreciation for your help with DSV One.

Finally, I would appreciate it if you would print the enclosed disclaimer in the Prydonian newsletter, in the interests of clarification. It is important that fans understand that Gambit is *not* being organized and run by the same peole who organized and ran DSV One. Gambit is an entirely new convention and should be regarded as such.

Once again, thanks for everything.

Laurie E. Cohen, Chairman, DSV One

P.S. I have sent as many duplicate copies of zines as I had on hand to help replace the ones that were stolen. Please let me know what else you still need—maybe I can get my hands on it.

We were delighted to help out at DSV One. Anything we may have done to help make it a success is only what we're in business for, after all. Thanks to Laurie, Deb, and all the others who planned DSV and brought it to fruition. Decima's donation to WHYY is another thing to be grateful for, and our fanzine library will only be better for your wonderful personal gift. DSV One was a great convention; if Gambit is even half as good, that will be something.

[This is the disclaimer Laurie asked us to print:]

To all fans:

This is to clarify the relationship between the planned convention Gambit and its organizers and last January's DSV One and its organizers, in light of the confusion that has arisen.

THERE IS NO RELATIONSHIP. GAMBIT IS NOT DSV Two. DSV One was organized and run by Decima Productions. Neither Decima Productions, Laurie Cohen (DSV One's Chairman), nor Deb Walsh (DSV One's Co-Chairman) are involved in any way with Gambit. Gambit is a new venture that cannot draw upon the same pool of resources and and experience as DSV One, and must necessarily be judged on its own merits.

Any questions or comments regarding Gambit should be directed to the Gambit organizers and NOT to Decima productions, Deb Walsh, or Laurie Cohen.

To those of you who attended DSV One, Deb and Laurie would like to say thanks once again for your support at the convention and for your expressions of appreciation thereafter. Please know that there were most gratefully received.

There will be a final mailing to all DSV One members detailing ordering information about videotapes and photographs, among other things, as soon as we can manage. We apologize for the delay, and thank you for your continued patience.

Laurie E. Cohen, Chairman, DSV One

DSV One was a great convention; it is our hope that Gambit will also be a great show. We were pleased to help Decima productions out and we will be equally pleased to help Gambit Con out. However, fans should realize that Gambit is a new convention.

Dear Prydonians:

Enclosed is my renewal fee and I might as well congratulate you for your most recent and most horrible set of April Fool's stories. Did I count three?!? Professor X, huh? Ralph and Alf? I don't know about you guys. And somehow, I don't quite think that Arnold Schwartzenegger would be quite right for the part of Gan—I'm not sure why, I just can't put my finger on it...

Seriously, though, keep up the good work on the newsletter. The new logo looks good, although I preferred the other typeface.

So far I've only seen "Paradise Towers" from Season 24—very strange. I'm looking forward to seeing the other three, but I wish Colin Baker hadn't left.

Just one more thing—my compliments to you on the Terry Nation interview.

Doug Whitney

Well, Colin didn't leave, he was fired; but I miss him, too. Still, Sylvester is proving to be an excellent Doctor. The scripts aren't as strong as one might wish, and the direction seems a bit hurried, but that may be a result of not enough money, along with a new script editor. Here's hoping for Season 25 (see the news note on page three). As for the April Fool's hoaxes—thanks for the appreciation. The Renegade has always been known for its sense of humor; also for its devotion to tradition. Our April issues show off both traits. It gets harder every year to come up with these stories. We're glad you think we succeeded this year.

Dear Prydonians:

Those of us who attended Whovent '86 East in New Brunswick in May 1986 were privileged to see segments of "Shada," the incomplete episode of *Doctor Who*. At Whovent '86, John Nathan Turner said he had no plans to complete it. Is there any sentiment among members to ask the BBC to prepare a special on "Shada" for TV viewers next year? A sixty- or ninety-minute special could be easily produced using existing clips and interviews with the author, cast, and producer could be used as a framework for the film segments.

If there is interest among the members, could we approach the BBC? This special could be used during Wintermission or other season fundraisers by NJN, WHYY, WNYC, etc.

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Notes from the Library

Bootleg Zines Plague Collecting

by Linda Anne Lineaweaver, Librarian

The Prydonian Fanzine Library is well into its second year of service to members and by all accounts is a resounding success. With a solid 60 members, the Library is swiftly recovering from its distressing loss at DSV One. Generous donations from members and nonmembers alike, as well as the usual spring gush of conventions, has helped us to recoup our losses and start afresh. A special thanks goes out to Laurie Cohen, whose recent donation of a large shopping bag–ful of zines was very welcome indeed.

We need one last mention of the loss at DSV One and then no more; it was too nice a weekend to dwell on this one bad event in an otherwise exciting and enjoyable weekend. I have become aware, through various conversations and correspondence, that some fans have the mistaken idea that the theft of our zines was somehow the work of fans. To the best of our knowledge, the theft of Karlene's van from the hotel parking lot and its subsequent vandalization (resulting in the loss of a substantial part of the Library) was the result of locals looking for valuables to fence. Sad to say, their disappointment at finding the boxes being filled with just so much "worthless paper" probably resulted in the fanzines being dumped in a gutter somewhere on the back streets of Newark. We have no reason to believe that anyone in fandom was responsible.

On one last negative note, we need to say a few words about a sorry situation that has become apparent in fandom over the last year or so. There is an increasing problem with a few unscrupulous persons in or on the edge of fandom who are reproducing and selling unauthorized copies of numerous fanzines. Considering all the time, work, and creativity that goes into the production of fanzines (often quite a labor of love undertaken at a loss to the authors/editors), we should all make a conscious effort to buy only legal copies either directly from the publishers or from their authorized agents.

Horizon, the Blakes 7 appreciation society in England, has been hit particularly hard and has asked us to pass along the word that unless you are buying from an authorized Horizon agent, the following fanzines are illegally reproduced and should be avoided: Blakes 7 Omnibus, volumes 1 and 2; Between Black and White, Sanction, and Oracle. Also, some American zines such as B7 Complex and Fifth Season are also being illegally reproduced.

It is so easy, as a collector, to buy the first copy you can get. But now we must start to show some restraint and good judgment in our purchases. Making copies of an out-of-print zine for your personal library is one thing, but wholesale fraudulent marketing of unauthorized fanzines can only be stopped by fans being aware of the problem and then refusing to buy questionable copies. We owe our support and loyalty to the authors, artists, and editors who put so much of their time and love into their work for our enjoyment.

Many conscientious and aware convention organizers are beginning to require proof of authorization from dealers. This is a step in the right direction. Another needed step is fan awareness and restraint. Don't be afraid to ask for a person's authorization to sell a zine that they have not personally published. Some commercial dealers may not even be aware that some of the fanzines they get from their suppliers are bootlegged. It is up to us to ask them to find out where their supplies are coming from. It's a shame that this kind of activity exists in fandom, but, with the active participation of collectors who refuse to buy illegally reproduced fanzine, we can make it unprofitable for bootleggers to continue.

If you have information about unauthorized versions of fanzines or would like further information about our library, please send a SASE to me, Linda Anne Lineaweaver at 4-D-8 Arbor Green, Beverly, New Jersey 08010.

Letters, Again

continued from page six

Let those who are interested respond in future letters to *The Renegade*.

Mac McCuen

I guess you weren't there on the Sunday after we showed all of "Shada" from 1 to 3:30 am. Several fans started a petition to the BBC signed by everyone who had stayed until the end. We gave such stalwarts a special button reading "I Survived Shada at Whovent '86 East." There is virtually no way at all the BBC will ever do anything with "Shada." I don't like to sound like a curmudgeon, but I wouldn't want anyone to get hopes up. Only about 40 percent of the script was actually made; the rest of the tape has nothing but hard-to-read caption slides describing the action and dialogue. Much of what was made had no sound effects or special effects dubbed in. What with the actors all now doing other things, plus Douglas Adams' having used bits of his script in his new novel, Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency [see the Renegade, October 1987, page four], it would be impossible for the BBC to get the rights to do anything with the script. A special also would not make any additonal money for the Beeb. Releasing what exists on tape would not appeal to enough viewers to generate the thousands of sales that would justify the action. There just aren't enough hardcore fans out there to pay to watch what is, in fact, a very boring show in the final three episodes due to the fact that's it's almost all slides. "Shada" will have to remain a memory, at least until Douglas Adams (or someone else) novelizes it.

Competition 11 Delayed

We have delayed running results to our "Prydonian Renegade Competition Number 11" because we received only two responses. The theme is new Federation holidays. The deadline is now May 28.

Doctor Who News

We have some information about Season 25 of *Doctor Who*. The first episode is called "Remembrance of the Daleks," by new writer Ben Aaronovich. It will have Davros in it. Story two is "The Greatest Show in the Galaxy," by Steven Wyatt (he wrote Season 24's "Paradise Towers"). It's set in an interstellar traveling circus. Britain's *Doctor Who Bulletin* has said the third story will feature the Master, but at I-CON VII on April 15 Anthony Ainley said he has not yet been asked to be in this season.

Apparently the BBC has guaranteed that there will be a 26th season of *Doctor Who*. Currently the rumor in Britain is that producer John Nathan-Turner will be replaced by Gary Downie, who has worked on the show in various capacities and is now a production assistant on *Eastenders*. There's no confirmation of that yet.

Dalek stories to be novelised

John Peel, well-known fan writer, is novelizing "The Chase" and "The Dalek Master Plan" for Target. He is using Terry Nation's original scripts for the shows, which were not filmed as written. No word yet on when they'll be out.

Peel and Nation are collaborating on a book about the Daleks, according to Peel. It will be published in America by St. Martin's Press.

To "The Captain and Friends"

We received a letter signed only by "The Captain and Friends, Ltd." For legal reasons, we can't print anonymous letters. We'd like to print this one, but we need to know who wrote it. We will withhold the actual name or print it under a pseudonym. Please let us know.

Zines searching for contributions

We have heard of two new fanzines looking for contributions. *Doctor Bellfriar's Memorial Journal* wants alternatives to B7 endings plus stories that fill in holes. Send submissions and inquiries to Kathy Coy, 485 Hawkins Boulevard, Copiague, NY 11726. Enclose a SASE. Artwork is also needed.

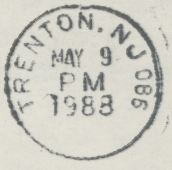
Voices From the Present wants anything B7-oriented. Artwork also. It will be priced at $5. Send submissions and reservations to Patricia Russo, 341 73rd Street, North Bergen, NJ 07047.

Call The Tardis

Once again we are asking for people to call The TARDIS BBS (609-448-1361), a large computer bulletin board. E-mail to Tom Beck for access to Section 13, for club members only.

PRYDONIANS of PRYNCETON

PO Box 3194
Princeton, NJ 08543-3194



Karen and Scott 10/88
Audubon, NJ 08106 Avenue

Warning! If your address label is printed in *green*, your membership expires at the end of next month.

If your address label is printed in *red*, your membership expires with this issue. This will be your last issue of *The Renegade* unless you renew your dues by the end of this month.

Dated Material—*Please Rush!*

Looking For A Sure Thing? Don't Gamble...

Come To GAMBIT

Join Invited Guests Paul Darrow, David Jackson, Michael Keating, Terry Nation, Jacqueline Pearce, Janet Lees Price, Gareth Thomas and Sheelagh Wells*

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For the "most excitement you can have with your clothes on anywhere in the galaxy" you'll want to deal yourself in to Gambit. For three days, you can mingle with the joyous multitudes of Blake's 7 fans, including guests from the cast. Here's just a sample of the exotic pleasures you'll enjoy...

- ♥ *Guest panels—members of the B7 cast will be on hand for enjoyable—and often outrageous—question and answer sessions, plus some extra special discussions. Leave your tedious scruples about lying and cheating at home!*
- ♣ *Fan panels—join in with your compatriots for some in-depth discussions of our favorite program... and our favorite characters. You'll talk about everything from obscure philosophy to the aesthetic qualities of black leather and studs... and much more!*
- ♦ *Art Show and Auction—fandom's most talented artists will be on hand with the best examples of their craft... on display for your appreciation and purchase. Bring money!*
- ♠ *And much, much more!*

So, don't miss the greatest show not on Earth... make your plans now to teleport to the Newark Airport Holiday Inn North in February! Send in the attached coupon today... because with such a good party, the limited memberships will be going fast! So, now is the best time to deal yourself in!

** Guest appearances are subject to professional commitments*

Yes, deal me in for GAMBIT Membership: *Full membership (3 days) at $45* ☐
Club membership (3 days) at $35 ☐
Supporting membership(progress reports & program book only) at $10 ☐

Enclosed is my check for $_____, for _____ membership(s) in GAMBIT. (Please include all information requested below for each person registering.) Make check payable to GAMBIT CON, Inc. and mail to: GAMBIT CON, Inc. 308 W. 30th St., N.Y., N.Y. 10001.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ *State* _____ *Zip* _____ *Telephone* _____
area code

GAMBIT has no relationship, affiliation or connection with DSV ONE or Decima Productions.

♣ CLUBS ♣

Hey all you B7 club members out there—have we got a deal for you! As a thank you to all the clubs who have given their love and support to promote Blake's 7, GAMBIT is offering a Club Membership. If your club has elected to participate in this program, and you were a paid-up member of that club as of May 1, 1988, you are eligible for a special $35 3-day rate. Please indicate below which clubs you belong to. Sorry, we can't accept any club memberships without this information. This rate is good only till ***June 30, 1988.*** *After that date, only $45 memberships will be accepted. Also, this rate is available only to club members themselves. If you want to bring your friends, family, significant others, resident (or visiting) aliens or anyone else who is not a club member, sorry fellas, they'll have to pay the $45 rate. By the way, if your club hasn't received the Club Membership offer, please have them contact us immediately. This oversight could be caused by one of several reasons: the club had its detector shield up so we didn't know they existed, the post awful lost the offer, or possibly your communications were directly routed through Star One during the third season. If you're not sure whether your club is participating, ask them, not us!*

♠ SPADES (And Shovels, Pitchforks, Hammers . . .) ♠

GAMBIT needs a few good sentients. No good convention can function without helpers, so we're inviting you to be among the few, the brave, the masochistic to work with us to make GAMBIT the best con ever. Not only will you have great internal satisfaction . . . but there are some interesting perks to go along with that intangible. If you're interested, indicate in the space below.

♦ DIAMONDS (And Other Valuables) ♦

The Art Show and Auction at GAMBIT is starting to shape up, so all you artists out there will want to participate. For more information, show us your creativity by indicating your interest below.

There will be several kinds of dealing going on at GAMBIT, not the least being in the Dealers' Room. Pro tables cost $50; fan tables cost $25. Reserve your tables by indicating below how many you need and enclosing your check.

♥ (Thanks, From the Bottom of Our) HEARTS ♥

Since the teleport has not yet been developed, we need to find other ways to transport our guests to the con . . . which brings us to the subject of money. GAMBIT is establishing a fund to help bring our guests to the party. All members contributing $50 or more will be invited to a special Las Vegas Night with the guests. There will be games to play, chances to take and prizes to win—and your chips are on us! In addition, each contributor will be eligible for special raffles.

At this point you might be thinking that you haven't got $50 to spare for the guest fund, but every dollar helps. We'd like to involve everyone, so we've added a second level of contributors just for fans like you. Although you won't be able to attend the party, we have bonuses for the under-$50 contributors. For each $10 you contribute, you'll get a Dealer Dollar, redeemable at the con table and other dealer tables who have graciously agreed to accept them. In addition, for each $5 you contribute, your name will be put into a raffle (for example, if you contribute $30, you will have your name in six times!). The prizes in this raffle, which is separate from the regular contributors' raffle, will be pretty special and will include original works of art from some of the top fan artists as well as some surprises.

So, for a few credits more you can help us make GAMBIT the kind of convention that we'd all like to attend. We need you—if you can help, indicate your contribution in the space provided below and receive our thanks from the bottom of our ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥.

Check as many as apply. Please be sure to enclose a separate SASE for each item where requested.

♣ *I'm eligible to join at the special club rate and belong to the following clubs:* _____

_____

♠ *I'm trustworthy, eager, and don't mind missing some of the con. Count me in as a helper. Enclosed is my business-sized SASE (25¢ postage) for more information.*

♦ *I'm truly creative, artistic, and wish to make money. Please include me in the Art Show and Auction. Enclosed is my business-sized SASE (25¢ postage) for more information.*

♦ *I'm a dealer and wish to make money (forget about being creative, artistic and all that other stuff). Enclosed is my check in the amount of $* _____ *for* _____ *tables. I am a (pro) (fan) dealer (circle one). Enclosed is my business-sized SASE (25¢ postage) for more information.*

♥ *I'm a caring, generous, idealistic, kindhearted life form and wish to help bring the guests to GAMBIT. Enclosed is my check in the amount of $* _____ .